

REMARKS

The Applicants do not believe that examination of the foregoing amendment will result in the introduction of new matter into the present application for invention. Therefore, the Applicants, respectfully, request that the above amendment be entered in and that the claims to the present application, kindly, be reconsidered.

The Office Action dated May 3, 2005 has been received and considered by the Applicants. Claims 1-7, 9 and 10 are pending in the present application for invention. Claims 1-4, 6 and 7 are rejected by the May 3, 2005 Office Action. Claims 5 and 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected claims but otherwise states as being allowable.

Claims 1, 6 and 7 stand rejected by the Office Action under the provisions of 35 USC §103(a) based on the assertion that the it would have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill within the art to combine Applicants' discussion on page 1 of the specification as originally filed with US Patent No. 5,495,556 issued in the name of Honda (hereinafter referred to as Honda) to create the subject matter defined by the rejected claims.

The Examiner alleges that is would have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill within the art to apply the smoothing part 35 as taught by Honda to the description on page 1 of the specification to the present invention to create the subject matter defined by the rejected claims. Honda teaches that smoothing part 35 provide coefficients for equalization filter 37. The rejected claims define subject matter for adaptive prediction filter means adapted to derive a prediction signal from the digital information signal in dependence on an array of prediction filter coefficients, and smoothing means for smoothing the array of filter coefficients $A[i]$ so as to obtain the array of prediction filter coefficients for supply to the adaptive prediction filter means. Applicants, respectfully, point out that Honda derives a prediction residual $e(t)$ from inverse filter 31. Prediction coefficients a_i are supplied to the inverse filter 31. There is no disclosure or suggestion within Honda to smooth the prediction coefficients a_i that are supplied to the inverse filter 31. Honda teaches smoothing of the phase-equalization coefficients. It should be noted that while Honda teaches creation of a prediction signal that uses prediction coefficients,

Honda only teaches smoothing of the coefficients used for phase-equalization coefficients. Honda makes no disclosure or suggestion that would lead a person skilled in the art to smooth the prediction coefficients a_i that are supplied to the inverse filter 31 (see FIG. 2, col. 4, lines 1-39).

The Applicants, respectfully, submit that the smoothing of phase-equalization coefficients as taught by Honda does not disclose or suggest smoothing of the prediction coefficients as defined by the rejected claims. Honda teaches creation of a prediction filter but provides no teaching that would lead a person skilled in the art to smooth the prediction coefficients that are used by the prediction filter. Therefore, this rejection is, respectfully, traversed.

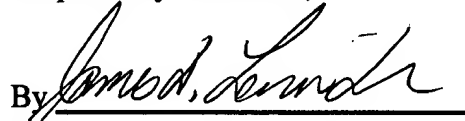
Claims 2-4 and 6 stand rejected by the Office Action under the provisions of 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Honda in view of US Patent No. 4,777,620 issued in the name of Shimoni et al. (hereinafter referred to as Shimoni et al.). The Examiner states that it would be obvious for a person skilled in the art to implement a low pass filter, an FIR filter, or an IIR filter as defined by the rejected claims. The Applicants, respectfully, point out that the rejected claims define subject matter for smoothing the prediction coefficients that are used by the prediction filter. There is no disclosure or suggestion within Shimoni et al. for the smoothing of the prediction coefficients used by the prediction filter. The low pass, FIR or IIR filters discussed by Shimoni et al. are not used to smooth the prediction coefficients used by the prediction filter. Therefore, this rejection is, respectfully, traversed.

The foregoing amendment adds new claims 13-18 that are of similar scope to the claims previously discussed. Accordingly, the addition of new claims 13-18 will not add new matter into the present application for invention.

Applicant is not aware of any additional patents, publications, or other information not previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office which would be required under 37 C.F.R. 1.99.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance, with such allowance being, respectfully, requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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on: September 3, 2005

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